

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 L-03 FRB-01 OMB-01 ITC-01
SP-02 USIA-15 AGRE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00
INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02 SIL-01 STR-04
TRSE-00 CEA-01 AF-08 ARA-10 EA-09 EUR-12 NEA-10
OES-06 IGA-02 /126 W
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R 041045Z APR 77
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6398
INFO ALL OECD CAPITALS
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 GENEVA 2520

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: UNCTAD, EGEN
SUBJ: UN NEGOTIATING CONFERENCE ON A COMMON FUND: STATE-
MENTS BY CONFERENCE PRESIDENT AND GROUP SPOKESMEN

REF: GENEVA 2515

THE FOLLOWING ARE THE COMPLETE TEXTS OF THE STATEMENTS
MADE BY THE PRESIDENT (WALKER-JAMAICA), SPOKESMAN FOR
G-77 (MACIEL-BRAZIL) AND SPOKESMAN FOR GROUP B (BARRASS-
U.K.) AT THE FINAL PLENARY SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE ON
A COMMON FUND.

BEGIN TEXT:

STATEMENT OF THE PRESIDENT

1. THIS CONFERENCE WAS CONVENED IN PURSUANCE OF RESOLUTION
93(IV) FOR THE NEGOTIATION OF A COMMON FUND UNDER THE
INTEGRATED PROGRAMME FOR COMMODITIES.

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2. DURING THE COURSE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS THE DEVELOPING
COUNTRIES AFFIRMED THEIR UNANIMOUS COMMITMENT TO THE ESTAB-
LISHMENT OF A COMMON FUND, TO SERVE AS THE MAIN INSTRUMENT
FOR ATTAINING THE OBJECTIVES OF THE INTEGRATED PROGRAMME
FOR COMMODITIES AS EMBODIED IN CONFERENCE RESOLUTION 93(IV)
AND TO FUNCTION AS THE CENTRAL SOURCE OF FINANCE FOR SPECIFIC
OBJECTIVES AND PURPOSES AS OUTLINED IN A PRELIMINARY WAY

IN ANNEX I TO DOCUMENT TD/B/IPC/CF/8. IN THIS CONTEXT, THE GROUP OF 77 ALSO SUBMITTED TO THE CONFERENCE THE DRAFT DECISION CONTAINED IN TD/IPC/CF/CONF/CW/L.1.

3. CHINA SUPPORTED THE PROPOSALS MADE BY THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. SOME DEVELOPED COUNTRIES SUPPORTED, OR WERE PROPOSED TO SUPPORT, THE PROPOSALS MADE BY THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, WHILE A NUMBER OF DEVELOPED COUNTRIES ALSO EXPRESSED THEIR READINESS TO PARTICIPATE IN AND FINANCIALLY SUPPORT A COMMON FUND.

4. GROUP B SUBMITTED A DISCUSSION PAPER IN ANNEX I TO TD/B/IPC/CF/6 AND A PROVISIONAL POSITION PAPER IN TD/IPC/CF/CONF/L.3.

5. THE COUNTRIES MEMBERS OF THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY AGREED THAT THERE SHOULD BE A COMMON FUND. OTHER DEVELOPED COUNTRIES STATED THAT THEY WERE PREPARED TO CONSIDER, WITH A POSITIVE AND OPEN ATTITUDE, THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMMON FUNDING ARRANGEMENT.

6. THE COUNTRIES MEMBERS OF GROUP D AGREED IN PRINCIPLE WITH THE IDEA OF A COMMON FUND IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE INTEGRATED PROGRAMME FOR COMMODITIES.

7. ALTHOUGH IT WAS NOT POSSIBLE TO PROCEED FURTHER AT THIS SESSION, IT APPEARS TO ME THAT THERE IS A LARGE CONSENSUS THAT A COMMON FUND SHOULD BE ESTABLISHED IN ACCORDANCE WITH RESOLUTION 93(IV) TO SERVE AS A MAIN
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INSTRUMENT OF THE INTEGRATED PROGRAMME FOR COMMODITIES. IN THE LIGHT OF THIS, THERE IS AGREEMENT THAT THE CONFERENCE RECONVENE AT A PLENIPOTENTIARY LEVEL TO COMPLETE ITS WORK.

8. TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE URGENCY WHICH THE CONFERENCE ATTACHES TO THIS WORK AND THE TIME-TABLE AGREED UPON IN NAIROBI IT WOULD SEEM DESIRABLE THAT THE CONFERENCE SHOULD RECONVENE NOT LATER THAN NOVEMBER 1977. TO THIS END THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF UNCTAD IS REQUESTED:

(1) TO PROPOSE SPECIFIC DATES FOR THE RECONVENED SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE FOR APPROVAL BY THE TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD AT THE SECOND PART OF ITS SIXTEENTH SESSION;

(2) TO MAKE THE NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS IN THE LIGHT OF THE DECISION OF THE TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD;

(3) TO CONDUCT SUCH CONSULTATIONS AS MAY BE APPROPRIATE

IN ORDER TO FACILITATE THE WORK OF THE RECONVENED CONFERENCE, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE PRESIDENT OF THE CONFERENCE AND TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE TERMS OF REFERENCE AND THE PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE AD HOC INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE FOR THE INTEGRATED PROGRAMME FOR COMMODITIES.

STATEMENT OF THE GROUP OF 77

MR. PRESIDENT,

ON BEHALF OF THE GROUP OF 77, I WISH TO STATE THE DEEP REGRET WITH WHICH THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES REGARD THE OUTCOME OF THIS CONFERENCE. WE CANNOT FAIL TO EXPRESS IN THE MOST INEQUIVOCAL TERMS THAT THE CONFERENCE IS ENDING IN COMPLETE FAILURE.

THIS CONFERENCE WAS CONVENED IN PURSUANCE OF RESOLUTION UNCLASSIFIED

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93(IV) IN ORDER TO PROVIDE THE FORUM FOR CONCRETE NEGOTIATIONS ON A COMMON FUND. IN THIS CONNEXION, THE GROUP OF 77 MADE IT CLEAR FROM THE VERY BEGINNING THAT WE EXPECTED THIS CONFERENCE TO RESULT, AT THE VERY LEAST, IN A DECISION TO ESTABLISH A COMMON FUND, EVEN IF FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS MIGHT BE REQUIRED ON THE CONSTITUTENT ELEMENTS OF THE FUND.

THE BASIC POSITION OF THE 77 WAS STATED, ALBEIT IN A PRELIMINARY MANNER, AS EARLY AS THE THIRD MEETING OF THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE. IT IS REFLECTED IN THE ANNEX TO THE REPORT OF THAT MEETING. DURING THE PROCEEDINGS OF THIS CONFERENCE THE 77 MADE A FURTHER EFFORT TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE SUCCESS OF OUR TASK BY INTRODUCING A DRAFT DECISION THAT NARROWED DOWN THE SCOPE OF THE DEBATE TO THE ONE VERY SIMPLE AND FUNDAMENTAL QUESTION: THE DECISION TO ESTABLISH A COMMON FUND, WHICH SHOULD SERVE AS THE MAIN INSTRUMENT FOR ATTAINING THE OBJECTIVES OF THE INTEGRATED PROGRAMME FOR COMMODITIES AS EMBODIED IN RESOLUTION 93(IV) AND FUNCTION AS THE CENTRAL SOURCE OF FINANCE FOR SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES AND PURPOSES. IN SO DOING, THE 77 AIMED AT OBTAINING THE DIFFICULTIES RELATED TO CERTAIN TECHNICAL ISSUES, WHICH COULD THEN BE TACKLED AT A LATER STAGE, WITHOUT ANY PREJUDICE THEREFORE TO THE ADOPTION BY THIS CONFERENCE OF A FIRM DECISION TO ESTABLISH THE FUND.

TO OUR DEEP FRUSTRATION THESE EFFORTS PROVED TO BE FRUITLESS.

AS WE ARE ALL AWARE, NO AGREEMENT WAS REACHED ON THAT

DRAFT. IT IS UNDENIABLE THAT THE 77 DID THEIR UTMOST
TO CONTRIBUTE TO A POSITIVE CONCLUSION OF OUR WORK. THAT
THIS DID NOT HAPPEN CAN ONLY BE ATTRIBUTED, THEREFORE, TO
A SERIOUS LACK OF POLITICAL WILL ON THE PART OF OTHER
GROUPS.

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MR. PRESIDENT, THE TWO DRAFTS SUBMITTED BY THE GROUP OF 77,
TD/IPC/CF/CONF/CW/L.1 ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMMON
FUND AND TD/IPC/CF/CONF/CW/L.2 ON PROCEDURAL MATTERS,
WHICH WAS LINKED AND PREDICATED UPON THE FIRST, CONTINUE
TO REPRESENT THE VIEWS OF THE GROUP OF 77, AND WE THERE-
FORE ASK THAT THEY BE ANNEXED

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6399
INFO ALL OECD CAPITALS
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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TO THE REPORT OF THIS CONFERENCE. WE MAKE THIS REQUEST
AS AN EARNEST OF OUR FIRM COMMITMENT TO THE ESTAB-
LISHMENT OF A COMMON FUND TO SERVE AS THE MAIN INSTRU-
MENT OF THE INTEGRATED PROGRAMME FOR COMMODITIES.

THE 77 WISH TO STATE THAT THEY REMAIN READY AND WILLING
TO NEGOTIATE IF AND WHEN THE ATTITUDE OF OTHER GROUPS IS
SUCH THAT THIS CONFERENCE CAN BE RESUMED AT PLENIPOTENTIARY

LEVEL WITH A FAIR DEGREE OF CONFIDENCE IN THE VIABILITY
OF A SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME.

WE NOTE, IN THAT RESPECT, THAT THE SECRETARY-GENERAL HAS
IT WITHIN HIS POWERS TO MAKE ANY NECESSARY CONSULTATIONS
PERTAINING TO OUR TASK, AND THE GROUP OF 77 CONSIDERS THAT
FURTHER DELIBERATIONS ON THE QUESTION OF THE COMMON FUND
SHOULD BE PURSUED WITHIN THE INSTITUTIONAL MACHINERY OF
UNCTAD, SUCH AS THE AD HOC INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE
ON THE INTEGRATED PROGRAMME FOR COMMODITIES AND THE TRADE
AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD.

I REQUEST THAT THIS STATEMENT BE FULLY REFLECTED IN
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THE RECORDS OF THIS CONFERENCE.

STATEMENT OF GROUP B

1. THE STATES MEMBERS OF GROUP B CAME TO THIS CONFERENCE TO
NEGOTIATE. ON THURSDAY EVENING I SET OUT OUR VIEWS ON
THE SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS WE HAVE MADE AND TABLED A FUR-
THER PAPER GIVING A PROVISIONAL POSITION ON SOME ELEMENTS
OF A COMMON FUND.

2. THE FAVOURABLE REMARKS WHICH MANY MEMBERS OF THE
GROUP OF 77 MADE TO MEMBERS OF GROUP B ABOUT THIS
PAPER CONFIRMED OUR VIEW THAT SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS WERE
NOW WELL ON THE WAY.

3. WE ARE ENGAGED IN THE PROCESS OF NEGOTIATING TOWARDS
THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMMON FUND.

4. WE HAVE ALL RECOGNISED FOR A LONG TIME THAT WE WOULD
NEED MORE THAN ONE SESSION TO COMPLETE THESE IMPORTANT
AND COMPLICATED NEGOTIATIONS.

5. DESPITE THE COMPLEXITY OF THE ISSUES INVOLVED, THE
CONFERENCE HAS, IN OUR VIEW, MADE SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS,
BROADENING THE AREAS OF CONSENSUS CONCERNING SOME OF THE
ELEMENTS OF A COMMON FUND.

6. GROUP B HAS PARTICIPATED IN A CONSTRUCTIVE SPIRIT
IN OUR JOINT EFFORTS TO FIND A COMMON EVALUATION OF THIS
PROGRESS IN THE HOPE THAT THIS WOULD HELP TO MAINTAIN
AND EVEN ENHANCE THE MOMENTUM OF OUR WORK.

7. WHILE THIS EFFORT WAS NOT SUCCESSFUL, WE REMAIN
POLITICALLY COMMITTED TO CONTINUE THE NEGOTIATIONS
TOWARDS THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMMON FUND.

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8. WE ARE PREPARED TO USE EVERY APPROPRIATE OPPORTUNITY
TO ARRIVE AT A MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE PROCEDURE FOR THE
RESUMPTION OF OUR WORK.

END TEXT.SORENSEN

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